

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.
WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1862.

ABOUT 7 1/2 o'clock last evening, as Mr. Henry Northrop was coming down street from home, and when in the vicinity of Second and Orange streets, he noticed two men, one of whom concealed himself behind a tree. Suspecting something, he picked up a rock, and almost immediately one of the men approached him and demanded his money, when Mr. Northrop threw the rock at him, striking him, as he thinks, on the side of the head. Mr. N. then ran off, while the man behind the tree fired at him several times.

We also learn, that yesterday a suspicious looking man had been hanging around in the vicinity of the residence of Mr. Samuel Northrop, apparently spying for no good purpose, and when told to leave, refused to do so. At about 7 o'clock, last evening, Mr. Northrop having ordered him off and he still refusing to go, Mr. N. fired a pistol at him, when he ran, calling for help. Mr. N. does not think he hit him. Mr. Robert Houston, who resides in the same house, popped the caps of both barrels of a double-barrelled gun at him. Neither Mr. Northrop nor Mr. Houston were able to identify the person. This occurred in the same neighborhood with the case of Mr. Henry Northrop, above related.

A gentleman mentioned to us this morning the fact of having noticed four suspicious looking and unknown men in close confab last evening in an alley near the wharf.

This evil is getting to be intolerable, and will necessitate the bringing up of every unknown man, so that he may be made to give an account of himself. It is evident that we have among us a gang of robbers and murderers. It is dangerous for any citizen to go out at night, to leave his door unbarred to answer a knock. This is insupportable and must be put down. The authorities are determined that it shall be.

Daily Journal, 19th inst.

WE CRV the telegraphic dispatches received here to day. We have no heart for comment, and we suppose no one expects that we should indulge in any. We can only trust, that like most other things of the kind, the details of this too painful affair may be exaggerated, and repeat that, even at the worst, we must not yield to depression or despair, but arouse all our energies to avert worse than death—ruthless subjugation.

This blow does not come upon us suddenly, for we have known it for over two days, except in so far as the capture of our troops is concerned; still it is none the less painful. It is severe, but what then? Because we have suffered a reverse, however terrible, shall we hang our heads? No, let us learn this much at least from our loss. They fought after defeat. They trained their men. They have taken advantage of our foolish attempt to defend five thousand miles of frontier, and have broken through our defenses by concentrating an irresistible force at the point of attack. Whatever is good and true and worth having and holding in the South will now show itself. Whatever is not true to the South will also show itself. Misfortunes like this may be needed to winnow the chaff from the wheat. We copy the following from the Charleston Mercury of Tuesday:—

From the Charleston Mercury, 18th inst.
FORT DONELSON.—Our telegraphic columns have been the intelligence that Fort Donelson has surrendered, that Nashville has been taken, and thirteen thousand of our troops have been captured. Making all due allowance for exaggeration and panic, it is reasonable to suppose that we have suffered a severe defeat in the West, and have lost our military position, together with a number of our troops. What then? No, doubt it is a case of blow—well delivered and effective. But what then? It is only what we have foreseen for many months past in our journal, and only what was to be expected by reasonable men, who, unswayed and calmly, would review the field of operations, and all the circumstances of our position. We have said our say on the subject, and pronounced the defensive system of warfare adopted by our authorities, situated as we were with a coast of five thousand miles to defend, without a navy, with a limited supply of arms, and with our ports blockaded, as a monstrous absurdity, necessarily involving weakness and much unnecessary disaster and prolongation of the war. But others were wiser than ourselves. We were equally alarmists and precipitate. The fruits of that policy are before us. Our conduct was not with the past. What is the burden of the future? It has accumulated much during these last six months of inaction on our part; but it is far from insupportable, yet there is power in the South, and there is nerve in the South to do much, and to endure much. We must pay for our inaction; but it brings with it a lesson to string every heart to defend our country. Let every man, who can strike a blow in defense of his household and his home, spring to his arms. Let us realize the work before us, and let us forward into the breach, like men.—Italy was overrun by the Carthaginians, under Hannibal, and Spain by Napoleon—perhaps the two greatest military leaders in ancient and modern times. Yet, both were defeated, and driven back from the soil which they occupied. Prussia, likewise, was overrun by France, Russia and Austria; yet were they driven back by Frederick, after bloody battles on his part, leaving twenty and thirty thousand dead men on the field. Our revolution, in 1776, is strikingly illustrative of a similar lesson.

We must fight to retrieve the past—blood must be shed. We must fight like desperate men. But there is nothing before us to blench the hearts of resolute and earnest men. We must be up and doing, day after day, and the time for action is upon us—upon every one of us. Let us not stand still in passive abatement, and the time is not far distant when the Northern hordes will learn the tenacity of their aggressions.

PRACTICE VS. PRECEPT.—We have heard the story, and there appears to be some truth in it, that a few days since Commodore Goldsborough, the commander of the Naval part of the expedition now in Pamlico and Albemarle Sound, was on the streets of Edenton, and strange as it may seem, was in apparent cordial conversation with some prominent citizens of that place. He assured them that he did not come to interfere with private rights or private property, nor to encourage insubordination among the negroes. No, indeed, he only came to restore law and order—to protect and defend them. They should be secure in their rights, property, etc., etc.

Just about the time when the Commodore had got warmed up, with his assurances of respect being paid to private property, he caught sight of some sails of Cotton. At a wave of his hand his sailors seized it, and before he had time to repeat his assurances it was on board one of his vessels!

DARING ATTEMPT TO DESTROY A RAILROAD BRIDGE.—We are informed that an attempt was made on Saturday night to destroy the Weldon Railroad bridge, by some persons as yet unknown. The structure is a large wooden one, guarded by two sentinels. The traitors who attempted this destruction gained access to the bridge by climbing up from a small island, upon which rests one of the main piers. The guard discovered the operations of the party as soon as they had commenced to cut away the principal beams. They fired upon the assailants, and followed up the volley so quickly with another, that they were glad to leave their implements behind and make good their escape.

The cars were detained some fifteen minutes at the bridge, in order to ascertain whether it was safe to cross or not. Careful investigation, however, revealed the fact that the bridge was not materially injured, and quite as strong as ever.—Rich. Dispatch, 18th inst.

We copy the above for the purpose of stating that our cotemporary of the Dispatch is wholly misinformed. We have just seen Captain John L. Cantwell, commander of the Railroad Guards, who is just from Weldon, and he informs us that no such attempt was made—that instead of these being only two sentinels, the bridge was and is effectively guarded as to render the occurrence of any such circumstances as are above related altogether impossible.

AFTER one of the bloodiest and most disastrous defeats that the forces of any nation ever sustained, the Roman Senate returned thanks to their defeated General, "in that he had not despaired of the republic." This spirit of unquenchable resolution, this determination never to despair of the republic, brought Rome in triumph out of all her difficulties, and gave her the empire of the world.

This same spirit must have animated the men of 1776 and succeeding years, else that revolution could never have been accomplished, and the patriots and sages of that day would have been denounced to their posterity of this, as rebels and traitors, or been sent to wander over the face of the earth like the conquered Poles and Hungarians. It was the crowning glory, the great conservative element of Washington's character that he was steadfast in the midst of trial, that in wear and he never despaired of the cause he was engaged in, and in this steadfastness he was pre-eminent, and to this his great influence was due, more than to any other element of his character.

The greatest quality of the patriot and statesman in times of trial is to stand forward, firm and immovable, never yielding to panic, never faltering under misfortune, knowing that such must come. No good cause, supported by any community as large and powerful as that of the Confederate States, can possibly be lost, unless it be abandoned. It never has been and never will be. Why, when Hungary was crushed between the power of Russia and that of Austria, it took the treason of Gorgey to complete her fall. It required division and disaffection among her own people to effect what the combined arms of two vast military empires might otherwise have attempted in vain.

We have recently met some reverses. We may yet meet more, but let the cause for which the South struggles be held firmly, steadfastly in view as the object of all endeavor, the goal of all ambition, the consummation of all hopes, for the attainment of which no sacrifice is too great, no suffering too painful, and who deems for a moment that success will finally fail to crown the arms and justify the cause of the Confederacy? Why, by meeting difficulty with a firm front, by advancing against it at least half-way, we disarm it of all its terror and more than half its danger.

When Major Craig rode in Wilmington, when Cornwallis traversed the State from end to end, when Charleston and nearly all South Carolina was in the hands of the British, when the Southern army of the patriots was swept away at Camden, the cause seemed almost buried with DeKalb, but it was not. The banner was still held aloft. There were still those who would not and did not yield to despair, although they might feel depression, and the result of their steadfastness is before the world. Their children's children call them blessed, and their names are honorable throughout the earth.

With this example before us, who would doubt or despair?

OUR ATTENTION has been—not called—but recalled to the course of the Virginia and South Carolina papers in their references to the events of the war. With these papers a persistent course is pursued, even if a studied effort is not made, with the view of ignoring not only the services, but at all times of trial the very existence of the troops from this State. For days and days after the affair at Roanoke Island we tried in vain to find in a Virginia paper the mention of a single North Carolina Regiment, Company, or individual.—We telegraphed to Norfolk and Richmond, equally without effect. From all the accounts it would indeed have seemed that there were no other persons engaged or even near the scene save and except Capt. Wise, Commodore Lynch, Capt. Cole and the Richmond Blues. This is only in keeping with the universal course of the Virginia papers, who tried their best to give all the credit of the battle fight to the Richmond Howitzers. We have the same complaint to make of the agent of the associated press at Richmond, who kept pouring on us day after day, details about Richmond men and none others.

The same course was pursued at or rather after the battle of Manassas, in which, although the number of North Carolina regiments was not very large, the conduct of North Carolina troops was not inferior to the most arrogant of those who attempt to throw her in the shade.

We recollect when the "Queen Sisters" a band of really talented children from Charleston performed here, the original compositions they spouted, trilled enough in all conscience, were all about the Palmetto and Hampton's Legion, and all that, so that one would be almost led to suppose that Hampton's Legion had taken all the batteries, made all the prisoners, repulsed all the charges, and left to the rest of mankind only the part of quiet and unemployed spectators of their daring achievements. In their programme North Carolina had no part, although some few sentences were interpolated for Virginia.

Now, this was all got up to suit the taste of the Charlestonians, and poor stuff as it was, the managers of the show had not guile enough, although playing in North Carolina, to interpolate a word for North Carolina. The South Carolina papers, generally speaking, are getting a little better in their tone—the Virginia papers are getting no better fast. And why should they? Their way of giving all the credit to Virginians, no doubt pleases their own people, and no doubt North Carolinians rather like it than otherwise, from the preference they show for the Virginia papers over their own. This they have always done, and will, no doubt, continue to do.

Besides, the Richmond papers have advantages in giving tone to general opinion, by their position at the Confederate seat of Government, and this, aiding their circulation, gives a sort of nationality to their mere local provincialisms. We may add that the leading North Carolina papers at the seat of Government are mainly political organs, and are hardly at all regarded in their own, or main lines, as general newspapers.—Our own paper is probably the only one in the State that in efforts to obtain the news at the earliest moment, as also in quantity of reading matter enters directly into competition with the issues of the larger cities of the neighboring States. We say this without any disparagement to our spirited and enterprising Charlotte cotemporary, which also receives telegraphs, but these being uniform, convey only a certain kind of information and give no distinctive tone to opinion.

Another thing. It would have been in accordance with our desire to have been able to have paid correspondents to accompany all the larger bodies of our troops from the first, but it would not have been within the reach of our means, and somehow, our North Carolina soldier is not very attentive voluntary correspondents, or when they do write, most of them seem quite as willing to contribute their mite to the columns of the papers of other States as of their own.

But we commenced by saying that our attention had been recalled to this matter. It has been so by our having received a very intelligent and modest letter from a true North Carolina soldier on for long, who has been serving for long months on Virginia soil, and who, seeking no fame for himself, is jealous of the fame of his State. We can say truly that every effort in our power to place the deeds of our soldiers fairly on record shall be made. Now, however, is the time to make history, rather than quarrel about it.

No doubt there is panic on one side and exaggeration on the other, and therefore we think that fuller details will lessen the terrible force of the blow we have sustained in Kentucky and Tennessee, but there is this fact apparent in all our battles, and this is made appa-

rent by the inevitable announcement in connection with all our defeats. The ammunition went out. "We read a good deal about cold steel, but it is very much of a fancy affair. The regular trained armies of Europe may be brought up to the bayonet charge, but bayonets on the guns of volunteers are an encumbrance. The best fighting of the war was done with shot guns without bayonets at Springfield, Missouri. The shot guns of the country that the men are used to handling are more effective weapons than the heavy musket, encumbered with the bayonet that "bristles," but does little else. The war had better be fought out with shot guns and hand firing rifles. It must be won, and that way may turn out to be the best.

THE TIME of trial is upon us. That first half of 1862, to which the enemy has pointed his people and the world as the turning point of his policy, when a vigorous course would be adopted and persevered in, has commenced, and all his efforts are being put forth.

To this same period, the first half of 1862, all reflecting Southerners have from the first endeavored to turn the eyes of their Government and their fellow-citizens, as the really critical period of the war. It is the time of the Northern rebuff from their first ignominious failures at Manassas and elsewhere. It is the time during which a progress may be safely ventured along the malarious lowlands of the Southern coast. It is the time when feverish excitement is superadded to wearied and unprepared preparation for crushing out the "rebellion." Unfortunately, with us it has been the time when apathy has taken the place of the first onrush influence, when over-confidence, which is so nearly allied to panic, had taken possession of all; when, none making and speculation for a time usurped the place of that self-sacrificing patriotism which pre-eminently marks this movement, and which, although stumbling for a moment, has never been really weakened. What wonder then, that at first reverses should have fallen upon our arms. These reverses were necessary. They are doing their work well. They are disappointing the expectations of McClellan. They are causing our twelve months volunteers to enlist for the war. They are filling up the ranks of new regiments and companies. They are stimulating the zeal and increasing the energy of all departments.—They will enable the republic to weather this fiercest of storms. This storm weathered, the prestige of our arms once more triumphantly vindicated, the banner of the Confederacy kept high advanced and floating on the next Fourth Day of July, and we still adhere to the opinion that the back of this invasion will be broken, the heart of this war crushed. But to do this, no effort must be spared, no sacrifice grudged. Our friends at Fort Donelson are showing what can be done by a steady, determined, stubborn resistance.

Our very full telegraphic dispatches will speak for themselves. They show the moving panorama of actual war, which, changing as it does from day to day, leaves speculation at fault and closest engineering without success. The great feature is the deeply aroused feeling of the people and the government of the South, from which we look for the most valuable results, whatever the movements of the hour may be, even if, for the time, the advantage should remain with the enemy.

The result so far, of the fight at Fort Donelson is eminently favorable to the Southern arms. That it may continue to be so is the prayer of every true friend of the Southern cause. The falling back of General Johnston from Bowling Green is no more to be regretted than the similar movement by his namesake from Harper's Ferry, the possession of which, in the course of events, had become rather safe nor useful.

By the way we are sorry to see a report going the rounds of some of the papers that General Beauregard is sick at Nashville with typhoid fever or sore throat.—This is indefinite, and we trust, mainly untrue, or at least exaggerated. We cannot afford to believe that the idol of the army should be rendered unfit for active duty at a time like this.

Dr. John Yancy, of the 29th (Vance's) Regiment, writing to the editor of the Asheville (N. C.) News, from Chattanooga, Tenn., under date of the 6th inst., concludes his letter as follows:—

Gen. Beauregard spent a night with us this week on his way to Bowling Green. Like the way he talked when called upon for a speech, he said this was a time for making speeches—that he would make his speech about Columbus, Kentucky, shortly. Hurrah for the General! I think that he will very soon make a demonstration. Two more fights, he says, will settle the hash with Yankeeedom.

Yours, as ever, JOHN YANCY.

MURDEROUS ASSAULT.—We learn that on Saturday evening last, as H. B. Eilers, Esq., was going home and nearly opposite the front gate of the house next north of his residence, occupied by O. G. Parsley, Esq., he was suddenly set upon by two men, one of whom knocked him down and the other stabbed him in the back. They would no doubt have succeeded in murdering him had they not been driven off by the opening of the front door of Mr. Parsley's house, bringing them into light, and perhaps by the person opening giving an alarm.

Mr. Eilers, as we are informed, describes the man who stabbed him as tall, well-dressed, and of rather gentlemanly appearance. He was in citizen's clothes, as was also his companion. As the men did not seem to be drunk, and were total strangers to Mr. Eilers, there seems to be no way of accounting for this assault on any other supposition than that of plunder. That this object was not effected, is no doubt due to the interruption which the opening of Mr. Parsley's door caused to the movements of the assailants.

Mr. Eilers is very severely, but we trust, neither mortally nor dangerously wounded. We have not heard from him to-day.

In addition to this, we learn that on last Wednesday or Thursday night, a tall, well-dressed man, with a black mustache, came to the house of Mr. Thorburn, a baker, in the South Eastern part of town and demanded admittance, but was told that this was a private house, and that he must go away, which he refused to do, but drew a knife and cut at Mr. Thorburn. Mr. Moore, Mr. T.'s brother-in-law, came round with his pistol. The man cut at him too, and ran, and Mr. Moore shot at him and thinks he shot him, but does not know, nor does anybody know who the man was. The description given appears to agree with the person described by Mr. Eilers.

There are certainly too many lawless characters circulating round, taking advantage of the circumstances of the country. It behooves citizens to keep ready some loaded weapon, and when such persons force or attempt to force themselves into respectable houses with insulting propositions, or for purposes of plunder, to draw trigger without hesitation. An example will be wholesome.—Daily Journal, 17th inst.

WHAT IS OUR POLICE ACT.—On yesterday we had to state that Mr. Eilers and two other of our citizens had been stabbed, &c. To-day we learn that another gentleman, Mr. T. S. Whitaker, was waylaid on Chestnut street, near old Broadway, and ordered to stop by two unknown persons. Mr. W. fired at one of them twice with a revolver, when they both ran. This happened about 8 o'clock at night. We also learn that a highly respectable citizen residing over the Rail Road station, a man out of his house about 11 o'clock last night, had some sundry other depredations were committed, among the rest that the stable of Captain E. B. Dudley was entered and his horse stabbed in half a dozen places.

Daily Journal, 18th inst.

THE CONFEDERATE TAX.

We learn that the Convention in session at Raleigh has passed a resolution, to the effect that the State shall assume the payment of the Confederate Tax collectable in May next from her citizens, issuing for that purpose treasury notes, fundable in State bonds, bearing seven per cent. interest. It is also provided, that in order to meet the interest on the State debt created for this purpose, as also to meet the payment in future of any Confederate War Tax, the State Revenue Law shall be made to conform to the Confederate Law, as far as the objects of taxation are concerned.

BY TELEGRAPH.

FOR THE JOURNAL.

RICHMOND, VA., Feb. 14th, 1862.
The bodies of Captain O. Jennings Wise, Lieutenant Wm. Selden, and Captain Cole, arrived here (at Richmond) this morning from Currituck, whence a flag of truce went to Roanoke Island. Captain Wise had three wounds through his body; Lieut. Selden had a ball through his head. General Wise saw the body of his son at Currituck and was much moved.

A portion of the enemy's fleet have reached the South end of the Chesapeake and Albemarle Canal and have killed various Confederate troops and secured them the enemy. FLAG OF TRUCE TO ROANOKE ISLAND—LATER FROM SUFFOLK—EUROPEAN AND NORTHERN NEWS, &c.

RICHMOND, VA., Feb. 14th, 1862.

A flag of truce from Roanoke Island reports the Confederate casualties at eight killed and thirty wounded. The Federals lost two Colonels, thirty-five other commissioned officers, and one hundred and seventy-five private killed, and four hundred wounded.

The bodies of Capt. Wise and Cole reached Richmond this evening. The flag of truce from Roanoke Island also reports that of the three North Carolina regiments on the island, but few were engaged in the fight, but that a large number were taken prisoners. [North Carolina had only two regiments, two companies in Green's battalion, and two companies of the 17th Regiment not captured at Hatteras, on the island.—JOURNAL.]

A letter received from Suffolk to day (Friday) contains information from that place up to a late hour last evening. The Federals had re-embarked at Edenton and gone to some other point. The number of horses landed was over estimated. The Federals assured the citizens that they did not come to harass or rob them, but while the officers were assuring the people, the soldiers were filling the gun-boats with the cotton found on the wharves.

Elizabeth City has been partially deserted by the Federals. The latest information from Winton reports that nothing has been seen there of the gun-boats which had started up the Chowan river from Edenton; perhaps they were only reconnoitering.

Dr. Coburn, a wealthy citizen of Elizabeth City, is at Suffolk. The refugees remained there until the enemy had passed and then they fled, and they were afraid to trust them. The Rev. Shadock Worrel, of Gatesville, had a cargo of corn captured in Albemarle Sound.

Mr. Elliott saved seventy-five thousand pounds of government pork, which was at Hertford. A large number of young ladies from the Murfreesboro' Colleges had reached Suffolk. The people of Murfreesboro' were apprehensive that Suffolk would be crowded with the North Carolina refugees.

The next depredations are expected at Plymouth and other towns on the Roanoke river.

EUROPEAN AND NORTHERN NEWS.

Northern papers, of the 13th inst., report the steamship Tontonia as arrived, with one day's later European news. The New York Herald says that parties in England have resolved to object to every measure taken by the Federal Government for the restoration of the Union.

The Tuscumbia had been ordered from Southampton by an official letter from Portsmouth.

A new ministry had been formed in Holland.

The Russians had been defeated in Circassia.

French troops are being rapidly dispatched to Mexico.

The steamer Nashville was still at Southampton.

The Paris correspondent of the Herald says that in French circles the opinion is almost universal that France and England will interfere in the American difficulties in less than one month; and also says that the ministers of government, the people, and the government papers of France are all ready for intervention.

The London Times says that there is a large party in the House of Commons who are urging on the Government the policy of interference in the American struggle.

The health of Messrs. Mason and Seward was good, but they complain of indigestion and of cold.

No change in the Liverpool Cotton market.

London, Jan. 31.—Consols dull at 92 1/2. American securities were heavy.

CONGRESS.—The Senate bill has passed appropriating seven millions of dollars for the completion of fortifications.

At New York Cotton was less active at 29 to 30 cents.

Bennett grows lustily over the Federal victories in North Carolina and Tennessee, and says that the rebel leaders have no idea of holding Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee.

A clause has been inserted in the Treasury note bill requiring interest on the bonds, which are to be sureties for the note, to be paid in coin.

The news of the capture of Roanoke Island was sent to Europe by the New York Herald, in the steamer Africa, which sailed on the 12th inst.

There is nothing of importance from any part of the army of the Potomac.

A dispatch from Cincinnati says that the Federal army of Central Kentucky is in motion.

CAIRO, Feb. 12.—Passengers report that eleven transports, with troops, had passed Paducah.

LEAVENWORTH, Feb. 12.—Active preparations are being made for Hunter's expedition.

Washington City is wildly jubilant at the news from Burnside's expedition.

Secretary Stanton is quite sick.

The Senate Naval Committee are considering the bill to re-organize the army. Two more bureaus are to be added.

FIFTEEN THOUSAND STAND OF ARMS—LATER FROM FORT DONELSON.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 14th, 1862.

The steamer Victoria ran the blockade at this port.—The blockading steamer fired two hundred shells at her, but the arriving safe, she brings fifteen thousand stand of arms, ammunition and coffee.

A private dispatch from Nashville says that a dispatch had been received in that city from Cave City, from Gen. A. S. Johnston, saying that he had 18 killed and 15 wounded. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded, is four to five hundred. Gen. Pillow whipped them. The enemy's gun-boats were materially damaged.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Feb. 14th, 1862.

The enemy's gun-boats opened fire on Fort Donelson at half-past three o'clock this afternoon.

There is only ten feet water on Harsh Shoals, thirty-five miles below Nashville. The river is falling rapidly, and our pilots say that the gunboats cannot pass over to-morrow.

As special dispatch to the Union and American, dated Fort Donelson, Feb. 14th, says that six gun-boats attacked the Fort this afternoon. After a terrific fight of near two hours, not a man or gun was hurt on our side.

Two gun-boats were badly injured, and the third crippled. All of them have retired. No demonstrations were made by the enemy to-day.

The enemy is believed to have received reinforcements. We expect it all around to-morrow.

FROM FORT DONELSON—FIGHT STILL IN PROGRESS.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Feb. 15th, 1862.

Intelligence has been received in official quarters that a vigorous battle took place on yesterday (Friday) at Fort Donelson.

Eight Federal gun-boats approached within a few hundred yards of the Fort and poured in tremendous volleys of shot and shell.

Two or three gun-boats were greatly damaged, and the Federal loss in killed and wounded must have been considerable.

Of the Confederates none were killed nor none wounded, nor was there any injury to the guns of the Fort.

The gun-boats were forced to retire.

The Confederate victory was complete, but it is probable that the Federals may renew the attack to-day.

LATER FROM FORT DONELSON.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Feb. 15th, 1862.—11:30 A. M.

A dispatch just received from Fort Donelson, says that the fight commenced at seven o'clock this morning. A terrible fight raged all the morning, with great slaughter on both sides.

The enemy was driven back to a part of his camps.

We have captured two of the enemy's batteries.

A Federal prisoner who was taken says that McClellan is commanding, and has fifty thousand men.

Our troops are still driving the enemy back WITH COLD STEEL.

FIGHT IN SCOTT COUNTY.

MEMPHIS, TENN., Feb. 15th, 1862.

McClellan's Cavalry fought the Lincolnites in Scott county, Tenn., on the 14th inst., killing seven and capturing nineteen, together with many horses and guns.

The Lincolnites fled to the mountains in disorder. The forces were equal. Three Confederates were wounded.

The Federal loss at Fort Donelson on Thursday was five hundred. Our loss was twenty-five.

General Pillow commands Fort Donelson. Gen. Floyd

and Buckner command the land forces. This is the most terrific conflict of the war.

NEWS FROM PORT ROYAL VIA THE NORTH.

RICHMOND, VA., Feb. 16th, 1862.

The Baltimore Republican, of the 14th inst., has accounts from Port Royal, &c., to the 10th inst. It says that the fleet is en route from Port Royal for Savannah, and it is expected that they would land eight thousand troops on Monday night.

The Federal forces had destroyed the water pipe leading to Savannah.

The plowing driven in the river have been cut by the Federal sixteen feet below the surface.

Twelve regiments were under marching orders to leave Port Royal on Monday inland to the railroad, and thence to Charleston. Three regiments of cavalry were to join them.

Two simultaneous movements were to be made, one to the railroad depot, and the other to the vicinity of Edisto Island. A large number of regiments are arriving at Port Royal, and also much heavy ordnance.

Many buildings are being erected at Port Royal, including a large hospital.

Whiskey, at Beaufort and Hilton Head, was selling at eighteen dollars per gallon.

The Baltic was to leave for New York with 630 bales of Cotton.

A breastwork seven miles long, across the Island, was nearly finished.

An arrival from Ship Island, with dates to the 23d January, brings information of the capture of the steamer Lewis and schr. View, with goods valued at \$60,000.

The Stephen Hart, sailing under the British flag, had been seized off Key West. She had a cargo of rifled cannon, Erfield rifles, powder, shoes, &c., valued at \$125,000.

Two regiments are on Ship Island, and reinforcements were expected.

THE BATTLE OF FORT DONELSON—KILLED AND WOUNDED.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

RICHMOND, VA., Feb. 16th, 1862.

Intelligence has been received in official quarters that the battle of Fort Donelson continued on Saturday for nine hours.

Five hundred Confederates were killed and wounded.—We took three hundred prisoners, six of the enemy's guns, and killed and wounded fifteen hundred of the enemy.

A dispatch dated Fort Donelson, four o'clock Sunday morning, says that the enemy have been repulsed by three thousand men, and that a renewal of the battle was expected on Sunday.

The final result of this great battle is yet uncertain.

LATER FROM EDENTON, ELIZABETH CITY, &c.

[THIRD DISPATCH.]

RICHMOND, VA., Feb. 16th, 1862.

The latest information from Edenton via Suffolk, is to Thursday, when the Yankees had quiet possession, their pickets extending six miles this way.

On Wednesday afternoon the Yankees ascended the Chowan river to Holly's wharf, eight miles from the mouth of the river, finding nobody but a few negroes. They raised a white flag and passed over to Edenton, on the opposite side of the river, but what they did at Edenton is unknown.

Col. Mitchell, the militia commander of Chowan county, was at Edenton when the Yankees arrived at that place. He conferred with a Yankee Captain, and was assured that they did not intend to interfere with private property or disturb citizens not in arms.

When Col. Mitchell left Edenton, a few old cannon had